

CIPROFLOXACIN
(Meningococcal prophylaxis)
Fact Sheet

What is ciprofloxacin?

Rifampin is an antibiotic that can reduce or eliminate some types of bacteria.

Why take ciprofloxacin?

You have been identified as a contact to a person with invasive meningococcal disease. Meningococcal bacteria are spread through close contact (such as living with someone, kissing, sharing cigarettes or water bottles, etc.) Most people will carry these bacteria in their throat and never show any signs of illness. Occasionally, a few people will become very sick with invasive meningococcal disease. Ciprofloxacin will reduce or eliminate the meningococcal bacteria from your throat. This reduces your chance of becoming sick or of giving these bacteria to other people.

How do you take ciprofloxacin?

Follow the instructions given by your doctor or pharmacist. You can take ciprofloxacin with a meal, but should not take it with dairy products (like milk, yogurt, ice cream). You should also not take ciprofloxacin if you have taken an antacid, zinc, iron, or calcium supplement within 2 hours. Take ciprofloxacin with a full glass of water.

Who should not take ciprofloxacin?

You should not take ciprofloxacin if you are:

- Under 12 years of age
- Pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Allergic to ciprofloxacin

Be sure to tell your doctor of all other medicines that you are currently taking, or if you have a history of kidney disease. Your doctor may give you a different antibiotic based on this information.

Are there side effects to ciprofloxacin?

Not normally, occasionally people will have nausea.

Contact your doctor if you develop a fever or rash, or notice your skin or eyes turning yellow.